

ER60-10924a

12 MAR 1960

Honorable Thomas C. Hennings,  
Chairman, Subcommittee on  
Constitutional Rights  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Senator Hennings:

I have received your letter of 11 February 1960 requesting information about purchases and use of minifon recording equipment by the Central Intelligence Agency.

The release which was enclosed with your letter indicated that in accordance with information provided by the General Services Administration, the Central Intelligence Agency had purchased 26 minifon wire recorders from federal supply scheduled contracts. This number should have been listed as 16 rather than 26. We have confirmed this figure with GSA officials

This Agency uses, on a very limited basis, minifon recording equipment in the United States as a light-weight, portable dictation-recording device to record conversations of considerable duration. A specific example of such usage is the recording of conversations with [redacted]

[redacted] Such recordings are made with the full knowledge and consent of the individual concerned. Minifon equipment is also used in this country in conjunction with our training program.

(EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE [redacted])

Mandates placed upon me by the National Security Act and the Central Intelligence Agency Act, provisions which I believe are familiar to you, preclude me from identifying the offices or employees of the Agency who use this type of equipment. I wish to co-operate with your Subcommittee in every way possible; however, and have asked my Legislative Counsel, Mr. John S. Warner, to discuss this response with the Chief Counsel of your Subcommittee.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles  
Director

CONCURRENCE: Original draft concurred-Mr. [ ]  
Director of Security 4 March 1960

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP					
TO	NAME AND ADDRESS		INITIALS	DATE	
1	Mr. <span style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 80px; height: 20px; vertical-align: middle;"></span>				
2					
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ACTION		DIRECT REPLY		PREPARE REPLY	
APPROVAL		DISPATCH		RECOMMENDATION	
COMMENT		FILE		RETURN	
CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION		SIGNATURE	
<p>Remarks:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">I have revised the attached letter to Senator Hennings on the minifon matter on the basis of our telephone conversation. I hope I have picked up the points which you said the Director wanted changed.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 250px; height: 50px; margin: 20px auto;"></div> <p style="text-align: center;">Assistant Legislative Counsel</p>					
FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER					
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.				DATE	
Assistant Legislative Counsel, <span style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 100px; height: 20px; vertical-align: middle;"></span>				11 Mar 60	
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